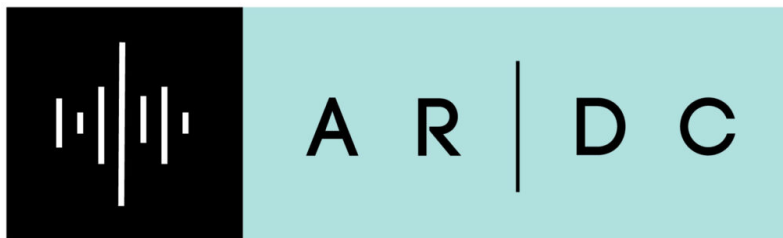


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AMATEUR RADIO DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS

September/October 2025

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Upcoming Community Deadlines and Notices

- **Next Grant Application Deadline:** The next deadline for submitting a grant or scholarship application is **February 1, 2026**. Applications received after this date will be reviewed in April 2026, [so get your applications in now](#).
- **Applications for 2026 ARDC Volunteer Committees:** The deadline to apply is **Friday, October 31, 2025**. Learn how to apply in our [blog post](#), or reach out to us at hr@ardc.net with any questions.

Harald Welte joins ARDC's Board of Directors



The team at ARDC is pleased to announce that on July 25, 2025, Harald Welte joined our Board of Directors.

Harald has been fascinated by electronics since childhood days, and remains fascinated by both electronics (from analog to digital) and computers ever since. [more...](#)

ARDC Celebrates 44 Years of 44Net

September 2025 marked 44 years since Hank Magnuski KA6M obtained the IP addresses that became 44Net. To celebrate this milestone, we've created a short video highlighting the origins



of 44Net, now available on our NEW [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MQVyJUjmfZc) channel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MQVyJUjmfZc>. [more...](#)

Over the next year, we'll continue to share more stories and facts about 44Net on our social media pages. If you have memories to share, we'd love to hear from you at comms@ardc.net.

Here's to 44 years of experimentation and the future we'll continue building together!

Grantee Gathering

On October 1, 2025, we hosted our second Grantee Gathering of the year, focused on the theme of *peer groups*. A total of 32 participants came together to collaborate and explore opportunities for future work. By the end of the gathering, many were asking for more chances to connect— an encouraging sign of the gathering's success!

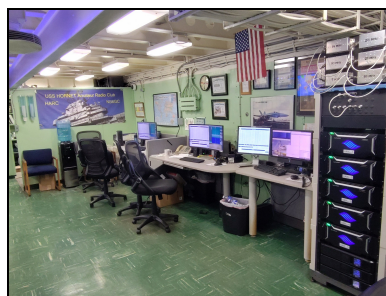
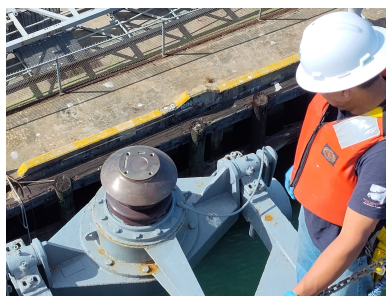
If you're a grantee and would like to join us for future gatherings, keep an eye on your inbox in Q1/Q2 2026!

Also, if you didn't catch the May 2025 Grantee Gathering, check out this latest blog post on Getting Started with Outreach, which also includes a recording of the meeting: <https://www.ardc.net/how-to-get-started-with-outreach/>.

Grantee Updates

Check out the links below to learn more about what our grantees have recently been up to!

- [University of Cape Town's](#) progress on [SmartSDN](#), specifically their code and related resources:
 - GitHub repo: <https://github.com/Taurine-Technology/sdn-launch-control>
 - Documentation: <https://github.com/Taurine-Technology/sdn-launch-control/blob/main/SDN-Launch-Control-Installation-Manual-v1.0.0-beta.pdf>
 - YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BMdbTTLqWG0>
- Update from [ARDC SWE Scholarship](#) Recipient Esther Omoyiwola, a graduate student at Georgia Southern University: <https://www2.georgiasouthern.edu/news/2025/09/17/a-second-chance-at-success-for-georgia-southern-graduate-student/>
- [The USS Hornet Amateur Radio Club's \(NB6GC\)](#) continued progress of their antenna work on the [USS Hornet](#), along with the complete installation of all their FlexRadios in the ham shack!



- Guest Blog Post: [Rhizomatica at Hamvention 2025](#)
- Deployment of Sri Lanka's BIRDS-X Dragonfly, in collaboration with [grantees](#) at the [Kyushu Institute of Technology \(KIT\)](#): <https://www.adaderana.lk/news.php?nid=112687>
- The [MORE Project](#) is currently running a Get Your Tech License Now Campaign. If you're interested in getting your amateur radio license or know someone who is, sign up here to register: <https://n2re.org/m-o-r-e-project>
- Update from the [Delaware Valley Radio Association \(DVRA\) on W2ZQ](#): <https://www.facebook.com/groups/180939538638522/permalink/24716966794609122/?>

[mibextid=wwXlfr&rdid=t3wgbVGfswLJl2ks](#)

- Guest Blog Post: [An Update on FreeDV's Baseband FM \(BBFM\) Technology](#)

If you are a grantee and would like to have ARDC highlight your work, please send updates to giving@ardc.net. We love telling the world about the great work you all are doing to advance ARDC's [mission](#) and [vision](#)!

What ARDC Has Been Up To

JARL Ham Fair 2025



[JARL Ham Fair 2025](#) happened from August 23 - 24, 2025 in Tokyo, Japan. 44Net Program Manager John Burwell K15QKX attended, where he had the honor of participating in the Opening Ceremony.

While there, John connected with Toshiyuki 'Tom' Mabuchi JF3LGC, our 44Net Regional Coordinator in Japan, who helped at the booth with translations. John also met a [grantee](#) from the [JARL Kyoto Club](#), who shared their efforts to help young hams get licensed and involved in the hobby.

John was struck by how many clubs and organizations are working to bring amateur radio and electronics to younger audiences. He learned that HF is popular in Japan, and interest in 44Net came largely from groups of students, teachers, and neighborhood clubs, who lit up at the idea of using 44Net to build local networks. The enthusiasm for education was everywhere, creating a "kids of all ages" atmosphere and a great deal of optimism— a reminder that the hobby is alive and thriving.

John shared, "It was an honor to greet the organizers and attendees and thank them on behalf of ARDC for everything they're doing for amateur radio in Japan."

A special thank you to Tom for his help with translations and to the following folks from JARL that supported ARDC's representation at the Ham Fair:

- Koji Morita JA5SUD, JARL President
- Jun Muto 7N2HJY
- Taka Otsuka 7K2COL / K2COL
- Kurakichi Sawada JG1DKJ
- Aki Suguro JK1OZS
- Toru Tanaka JR3QHQ
- Ken Yamamoto JA1CJP
- Taka Yamauchi 7K1BIB
- Setsu Yoshimura JL1UXH

GNU Radio Conference 2025 (GRCon25) / Zero Retries Digital Conference (ZRDC) 2025

Image Credit: KaytLynn Inman

Schuyler Erle N0GIS and Merideth Stroh KK7BKI represented ARDC at [GRCon25](#) (September 8 - 12) and [ZRDC 2025](#) (September 13) in Everett, WA. During the events, they connected with radio amateurs, developers, and open-source contributors, sharing about our mission and programs.

At GRCon25, Schuyler attended several technical talks, including Daniel Paul's presentation on [implementing an FT-8 encoder/decoder pipeline](#) in [GNU Radio](#), funded by [Google Summer of Code](#). He also met with grantee Jesse Alexander WB2IFS/3, the Friday Keynote speaker, whose conversation helped motivate Jesse's blog post describing ways to increase diversity in the amateur radio community:



Pacificon 2025

<https://www.eyepoet.net/post/2025/09/15/GRCon2025-After-Action.html>.

At ZRDC, Schuyler's talk, *44Net Everywhere or, Everything From ARDC to ZRDC*, was well-received by an enthusiastic audience. A thank you to Steve Stroh N8GNJ, ZRDC Organizer, for this speaking opportunity.

Both conferences were fantastic opportunities to showcase Free Software, digital networking, and the work of many of our grantees, and also to reconnect with people across the hobby. We look forward to attending these events in the future!



Tim Požar KC6GNJ, TAC member Dennis Mojado AD6DM, and board member Phil Karn KA9Q attended [Pacificon 2025](#), held from October 10 - 12, 2025 in San Ramon, CA. Attendees were met with outstanding forum talks, with Dennis noting that "I wrote down so much stuff that I need to research later" after he walked away from Steve Stroh's N8GNJ talk on *MORE Technological Innovation in Amateur Radio*. Folks also had the opportunity to see demos from exhibitors, such as [FreeDV](#), and catch up on what the folks at [Meshtastic](#) have been up to. Pacificon is a fantastic hamfest to catch up with hams in the Bay Area, as well as to connect with the out-of-towners like [Dave Casler KE0QG](#) and [ARRL's](#) Steve Goodgame K5ATA. We hope to see you all there next year!

Contact Us!

We always want to hear from you:

- Visit our website: [ardc.net](https://www.ardc.net)
- General info: contact@ardc.net
- Information and questions about grants: giving@ardc.net
- 44Net issues: contact@ardc.net
- Groups.io: ardc.groups.io
- Twitter / X: [@ARDC_73](https://twitter.com/ARDC_73)
- Facebook: [Amateur Radio Digital Communications](https://www.facebook.com/AmateurRadioDigitalCommunications)
- LinkedIn: [Amateur Radio Digital Communications](https://www.linkedin.com/company/AmateurRadioDigitalCommunications)
- YouTube: www.youtube.com/@ARDC73

ARDC's Mission

The mission of Amateur Radio Digital Communications (ARDC) is to support, promote, and enhance digital communication and broader communication science and technology, to promote amateur radio, scientific research, experimentation, education, development, open access, and innovation in information and communication technology.

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